Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Thursday 03 Mar 2022 until 23:59 on Friday 04 Mar 2022

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 02 Mar 2022 at 16:35

Confidence: Medium at best for cloud and precipitation details due to a slow moving and weakening frontal trough over the UK and its eastward movement through next few days, but reasonably high for a more settled, if still rather cloudy, picture with lighter winds over the weekend with a high building over the UK.

Headline for Thursday 03 Mar 2022: Some brightness in north, otherwise cloudy with outbreaks of rain. Easing winds

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 03 Mar 2022

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** Low Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Light rain	Heavy Rain	Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
40%	20%	10%	20%	50%	60%	40%	20%

Forecast for Thursday 03 Mar 2022

Weather: Rather cloudy overnight with outbreaks of rain and drizzle becoming lighter and patchier towards dawn with, especially over northern fells, some clear spells developing. Most places then start dry with some bright or sunny spells around, the best of these across more northern fells. However cloud increases through the morning with outbreaks of rain and drizzle edging east through the late morning and afternoon, the rain persistent and heavy at times across southern fells. The rain continues to edge east through the evening with a few clear spells developing in the west. Some sleet and wet snow is likely on the higher fells

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance across the south but in the north around 60% at first falling to 25% by midday. Chances improve across western fells in the evening.

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m across southern fells, lowering to 300m at times through the late morning and afternoon, but cloud more occasional at times above 600m in north, especially through the morning. Otherwise visibility rather hazy, but good at times in north, falling to several kilometres in rain and drizzle and perhaps a kilometre in any summit wintriness.

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Forecast for Thursday 03 Mar 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	36/44 SE	31/38 SE	32/39 SE	34/41 SE	28/36 S	20/25 S	14/18 S	10/13 SW	9/12 SW
600	29/39 SE	26/36 SE	26/35 SE	29/40 SE	22/30 SE	15/21 S	11/15 S	7/10 SW	7/10 SW
300	12/30 SE	10/26 SE	10/25 SE	12/27 SE	9/23 S	7/16 S	5/11 S	3/8 SW	4/7 W
Valley	13/29 SE	12/26 SE	11/25 SE	11/24 SE	10/22 SE	8/16 S	4/9 S	4/8 W	5/8 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	1/-8	1/-7	1/-6	1/-7	2/-6	2/-4	1/-4	1/-3	1/-4
600	2/-5	2/-5	2/-4	3/-4	3/-2	4/-1	3/-1	3/-0	2/-1
300	4/-0	4/0	4/1	5/1	6/3	6/4	5/4	5/4	4/3
Valley	6/2	5/2	6/2	6/3	7/4	7/5	7/5	6/5	6/4
Freezing Level*	1600m	1500m	1400m	1400m	1300m	1100m	1000m	1000m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Feeling especially cold across southern fells in more persistent rain and drizzle.

Forecast for Friday 04 Mar 2022

Weather: Rain in east edging away east overnight and through the morning with some clear, then bright or sunny, spells in the west developing more widely, although generally there remains quite a lot of cloud around. Further outbreaks of rain develop through the afternoon and evening, especially across northern and western fells, and turn increasingly to snow above about 750m.

Maximum wind: Variable, mainly westerly or northwesterly, 10mph or less.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance in east at first, otherwise around 40% through much of the morning and early afternoon, falling back close to zero in afternoon across northern and western fells.

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 300-450m across eastern fells at first and across northern and western fells later, otherwise occasional or periods of cloud above about 600-750m. Away from cloud visibility good, falling to several kilometres in rain and drizzle and a kilometre or so in snow.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 or 4 Celsius in west at dawn rising to 8 or 9 Celsius by early afternoon.
At 800m: Around plus 1 or 2 Celsius.
Freezing level: Around 900m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Wednesday 2nd March 2022. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:10 Full report: The majority of ground up to, and including, summit level is now free from snow especially on south and west facing aspects. That said some significant patches of snow remain and, above 800m, there was little to no thaw in evidence despite the fact that it was raining at all levels and also marginally above freezing on the summit at midday. The remaining snow can be found above 700m, with most now above 800m, in sheltered spots and hollows and on steep north and east facing slopes. Where undisturbed, the snowpack below 800m was soft to firm whereas above 800m it was firm to hard. Where it has been compacted by walkers' boots on popular routes the snow was hard and icy creating an obvious slippery hazard on paths. There were also isolated patches of ice near drainage lines on paths and these were down to surprisingly (given the lack of a valley frost) low levels. At the top of some snow covered east and north facing slopes there are some overhangs – ie cornices. Although small, it is a steep drop beneath them, so please keep completely off any such snow covered edges and advise those with less experience to do likewise. Despite the appearance of daffodils in the valleys, the summit windchill (what the temperature feels like) remains below freezing so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots (not trainers) and equipment - including torch, map & compass and the ability to use them - are all essential for those going onto the fells. For those doing routes that necessitate crossing or climbing steep snow slopes – such as Striding and Swirral Edges which both have banks of unavoidable deep, steep snow guarding their exits - an ice axe is essential and crampons must be carried in case hard snow and ice is encountered. Please don't be lulled into a false sense of security by the fact that the crest of Striding Edge is just bare rock! Temperature: plus 1.4 C, Maximum wind speed 24.7 mph, Wind chill: minus 5.0 C, Average wind speed: 8.2 mph

Issued at: 1635 on Wed 02 Mar 2022

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